Reviewer’s report

Title: Proven invasive pulmonary mucormycosis in patient with acute myeloblastic leukemia successfully treated with amphotericin B and surgery

Version: 1 Date: 2 May 2013

Reviewer: Cornelia Lass-Floerl

Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?: Presentations, diagnoses and/or management of new and emerging diseases

Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is the case report ethical?: Yes

Is there any missing information that you think must be added before publication?: Yes

Is this case worth reporting?: Yes

Is the case report persuasive?: Yes

Does the case report have explanatory value?: Yes

Does the case report have diagnostic value?: Yes

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: No

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

The case describes a patient with AML suffereing from invasive mycosis. The presentation is of interest as it highlights the difficulties in adequate diagnosis. I recommend several points to be taken into account:

1) Abstract
What is the role of testing anti-Aspergillus IgM antibodies for acute infection? Which test system was apllied?

2) Please take care of the new nomenclature regarding zygomycosis and
zygomycetes!
Also, the term Absidia is no longer valid!!!
3) Case presentation
Which early laboratory markers for IFI were applied?
Anti-Aspergillus IgM or IgG? Which test - company?
What is the rationale to apply antibody-based assays in AML?
4) What about direct microscopic examination?
5) Use amphotericin B rather than amphotericine B
6) Why secondary prophylaxis with itraconazole?
Does this drug cover Mucorales?
7) Discussion
The authors do not discuss the possibility of a co-infection- why not? Why not thinking of an infection of Aspergillus and Mucorales?
The statement on the drug posaconazole is wrong!
The conclusion on antibody-detection is somewhat strange! How could the authors detect cross-resistance?

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published